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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/992,159	11/06/2001	Kar-Lik Kasim Wong	0808.65972	5303

24978 7590 12/21/2004

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EXAMINER

TREAT, WILLIAM M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2183

DATE MAILED: 12/21/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/992,159	WONG ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	William M. Treat	2183	

-- Th MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11, 13-18 and 22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11, 13-18, and 22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

Art Unit: 2183

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

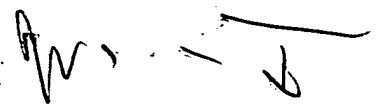
2. Claims 1-11, 13-18, and 22 are presented for examination.
3. Claims 1-11, 13-18, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tremblay et al. (Patent No. 6,279,100).
4. The reasons for rejecting claims 1-11, 13-18, and 22, presented in the examiner's previous action (7/15/2004), are hereby incorporated by reference.
5. Applicants have argued on behalf of claims 1-11, 13-18, and 22, in substance, that Tremblay does not contemplate pipelines having substantially the same instruction-processing capability and that one of ordinary would not understand he contemplated such an invention. The examiner respectfully disagrees and directs applicants to the language of Tremblay's first claim for "A processor comprising: an instruction buffer including a plurality of segments that store a plurality of subinstructions corresponding to respective segments of the plurality of segments; a plurality of functional units coupled to the instruction buffer, the plurality of functional units that receive the corresponding plurality of subinstructions for execution; and a pipeline control unit including a plurality of pipeline control segments respectively coupled to corresponding functional units of the plurality of functional units, the pipeline control segments controlling the pipeline of the corresponding functional unit to detect a stall condition that is local to a functional unit and stall the local functional unit independently of nonlocal functional units in an initial timing cycle, and propagating a stall to the nonlocal functional units in a

Art Unit: 2183

subsequent timing cycle.” Note that nowhere in the language of claim 1 does he seek to limit himself to three media functioning units and a general functional unit, as argued by applicants. In fact, it is only in dependent claim 18 where he claims “The processor according to claim 1 further comprising: a general functional unit of the plurality of functional units; and a plurality of media functional units of the plurality of functional units. Such language in Tremblay’s claims meant he clearly intended his invention to encompass the situation in which functional could be substantially similar, and he thought it within the skill level of one of ordinary skill to apply his teachings to such a situation.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to William M. Treat at telephone number (571) 272-4175. The examiner works at home on Wednesdays but may normally be reached on Wednesdays by leaving a voice message using his office phone number. The examiner also works a flexible schedule but may normally be reached in the afternoon and evening on three of the four remaining weekdays.

7. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



**WILLIAM M. TREAT
PRIMARY EXAMINER**